

17 April 1953

MEMORANDUM TO: PRAPTOLD

FROM: []

SUBJECT: HTGRUBBY Monthly Report, 15 March to 15 April 1953

1. Program Content

Topics stressed during this period included the aftermath of Stalin's death, the insecurity of Malenkov's regime, the implications of Gottwald's death, the Balkan Pact, the deception and true meaning behind the Soviet peace campaign, and the exoneration of the Soviet doctors with its implications of weaknesses behind the Kremlin. The regular appeals to Communist party members for defections from Communism and cooperation with HTNEIGH continue to be made.

2. Transmission

Beginning sometime this week, the powerful 2500 watt transmitters will be used to broadcast HTGRUBBY programs at 0530 GMT, on 49 or 46 meters. The afternoon and evening programs will continue to be broadcasted by the old transmitters since [] is of the opinion that the disruptive interference caused by the more powerful transmitters in the area around PYREX would cause a serious security problem if all 6 daily programs of HTGRUBBY were to be broadcasted over the 2500 watt transmitters.

3. Reception and Internal Effect

There were no reports during this period as to HTGRUBBY's reception or effect in KMWAHOULAND. However, now that a monitoring station will be set up by [] in Bari or Brindisi we expect regular reports on HTGRUBBY's receptivity there. Also according to the propagation curves and our past experiences, reception should be even better in KMWAHOULAND this period than last, as a result of approved atmospheric conditions. In accordance with instructions, Apple Team is working on the problem of gathering data on the effect of HTGRUBBY on the populace. A query on that subject will be sent out to them in the near future.

4. Personnel

In answer to their queries at the time of the devaluation of the Drachmae the HTGRUBBY staff was informed that their salaries would continue at the same Drachmae figure which is mentioned in their contracts. This caused a strong reaction from the staff who contended that when they were originally hired, their salary was discussed in terms of dollars and that dollars and not Drachmae is the basis of their salaries. They also contend that they should not be considered in the same category as indigenous personnel, because when recruited some of them were in other countries, some were about to depart to the U.S. under the Truman quota, and the others were about to emigrate to other countries. They added the fact that at present they are all helping to support friends and relatives who

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live in other countries and in that respect their salary has been halved in value. And, of course, some of them, like Loring, expect to go to the U.S. in the near future and his salary was used in part to provide savings in dollars to help him in America until he gets adjusted. As it is, the savings of the HTGRUBBY staff have been effectively halved when considered in terms of dollars which is the medium of exchange that is more meaningful to them since none of them intend to remain in Greece for any protracted length of time. The staff also pointed out that members and workers of HTNEIGH in Rome are paid in dollars, so why shouldn't the HTGRUBBY staff also be paid in dollars or dollar exchange? Since this matter has seriously affected the morale of the staff, it is hoped that Headquarters will consider the question of salary adjustments in the light of the above arguments, although it is realized that the salaries of the staff can not be increased to the extent of double in drachmae value.

The Greek Foreign Office's refusal to grant Fearing a visa on the charge that he was openly anti-Greek came as a surprise since Fearing has the reputation of being as non-committal on the question of the Greeks as any KMWAHHOO can hope to be. Consequently [] has been asked to check on the source and accuracy of the information received by the Greek Foreign Office.

Clarence W. Egadie has received an operational clearance and the information on his PRQ reads so favorably that it is most likely permission will be asked to add him to the staff, even though [] has never had the opportunity to personally interview him.

The continued delay in securing []'s visa to Italy has resulted in a management problem because ever since the latter was told of his eventual transfer to Rome three months ago, he has become anxious to leave and has ceased of his own volition to do any work for HTGRUBBY. In addition, he has been lax in his reporting on activities in Lavrion. It has been impossible to obtain any explanation of why []'s visa has been delayed.

RNADUANA returned from his trip to Paris and Rome on 11 April.

[] is expected to go to the hospital this month for a series of operations and treatment of his appendicitis and liver condition.

[] is also receiving medical treatment for an undetermined chest condition.

Loring has now been delayed over a year from receiving his visa to the U.S. and this extended delay is strongly suspected by the HTGRUBBY staff as being caused by the Greeks who are using the KMWAHHOO quota for Greek nationals. As a result of a check made by the staff they have come to feel that it is extremely unlikely that the quota number of 100 KMWAHHOOS are emigrating to the U.S. No doubt it will not be long before suspicions arise that the U.S. is not protecting KMWAHHOO refugees. Consequently, any information on the matter by Headquarters would aid in maintaining morale which might become a major problem with the HTGRUBBY staff who are already discouraged with the prospects of a liberation of KMWAHHOOLAND in the foreseeable future.

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